CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

activating a mobile device;

capturing a voice message using a microphone on the mobile device in response to activation of the mobile device;

storing at least a portion of the voice message in a memory on the mobile device in response to activation of the mobile device;

packetizing the voice message on the mobile device in response to activation of the mobile device; and

sending at least one packet of the packetized voice message to a network carrier wirelessly over a packet data network channel in response to activation of the mobile device.

2. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein activating the mobile device comprises receiving an indication that at least one button has been depressed on the mobile device.

3. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein the button comprises a key on a key pad.

4. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein activating the mobile device comprises receiving an authorization from a biometric device.

5. The method defined in Claim 3 wherein the biometric device comprises a speech recognizer.

6. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein activating the mobile device comprises receiving an indication that a selection mechanism was used on the mobile device.

7. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein activating the mobile device comprises receiving an indication that a stylus selection had been made on the mobile device.

8. The method defined in Claim 1 further comprising performing speech recognition on the voice message.

9. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein performing speech recognition occurs before sending the at least one packet of the packetized voice messages.

10. The method defined in Claim 1 further comprising receiving a text message requesting additional information about the voice message.

11. The method defined in Claim 10 wherein the requested additional information indicates routing information to be used in conjunction with the voice message.

12. The method defined in Claim 10 wherein the text message comprises a menu.

13. A mobile device comprising:

a selection mechanism;

a microphone to capture a voice message in response to activation of the selection mechanism;

a memory coupled to the microphone to store at least a portion of the voice message in response to activation of the selection mechanism;

a packetizer coupled to the memory to packetize the voice message in response to activation of the selection mechanism in response to activation of the selection mechanism;

a transmitter coupled to the packetizer to generate signals representing the at least one packet of the packetized voice message in response to activation of the selection mechanism; and

an antenna coupled to the transmitter to transmit the signals representing the at least one packet of the packetized voice message to a network carrier wirelessly over a packet data network channel in response to activation of the selection mechanism.

14. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 wherein the selection mechanism comprises a button on the mobile device that is activated when depressed.

15. The apparatus defined in Claim 14 wherein the button comprises a key on a keypad.

16. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 wherein the selection mechanism comprises a stylus.

17. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 further comprises a speech recognition processor coupled to the memory to perform speech recognition on the voice message.

18. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 further comprising:

a receiver coupled to the antenna;

a depacketizer coupled to the receiver to depacketize a received message requesting additional information about the voice message to a specified recipient; and

a display coupled to display information from the received text message.

19. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 wherein the received text message comprises a menu.

20. The apparatus defined in Claim 13 further comprising a processor running software, the processor being responsive to the selection mechanism to cause the microphone, the storage, the packetizer, the transmitter and the antenna to operate to generate the voice message.

21. The apparatus defined in Claim 20 wherein the software comprises a J2ME program.

22. An apparatus comprising:

means for activating a mobile device;

means for capturing a voice message in response to activation of the mobile device;

means for storing at least a portion of the voice message on the mobile device in response to activation of the mobile device;

means for packetizing the voice message on the mobile device in response to activation of the mobile device; and

means for sending at least one packet of the packetized voice message wirelessly over a packet data network channel in response to activation of the mobile device.

23. A method comprising:

receiving an indication that a button on a mobile device has been depressed; and

activating a packet data channel in response to pressing the button, including

packetizing voice data recorded by the mobile device in response to pressing the button, and

sending packets of the voice data on the packet data channel.

24. An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an indication that a selection mechanism on a mobile device has been depressed; and

means for activating a packet data channel to a carrier in response to pressing the button, including

means for packetizing voice data recorded by the mobile device in response to pressing the button, and

means for transmitting packets of the voice data on the packet data channel.

25. A method comprising:

sending packets of a voice message on a packet data channel from a mobile device; and

receiving text information in response to the packets of the voice message, wherein the text information provides a request to a user of the mobile device.

26. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the request is based on content of the voice message.

27. The method defined in Claim 25 further comprising sending packets on the packet data channel responsive to the request.

28. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the text information is received on a packet data channel.

29. The method defined in Claim 28 further comprising:

depacketizing packets containing the text information;

storing the text information; and

displaying the text information on a display.

30. The method defined in Claim 29 further comprising:

receiving information indicative of a response to the text information; and

wirelessly transmitting the information.

31. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the text information is received on a messaging channel.

32. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the text information comprises a menu.

33. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the text information provides a list of allowable commands, at least one of the allowable commands being specified in the voice message.

34. The method defined in Claim 25 wherein the text information provides a list of potential recipients.

35. The method defined in Claim 34 wherein the contents of the list of potential recipients is at least partially determined by the contents of the voice message.

36. An apparatus comprising:

a transmitter to send packets of a voice message on a packet data channel from a mobile device; and

a receiver coupled to the transmitter to receive a text information in response to the packets of the voice message, wherein the text information provides a request to a user of the mobile device.

37. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the request is based on content of the voice message.

38. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the transmitter is operable to transmit packets on the packet data channel responsive to the request.

39. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the text information is received on a packet data channel.

40. The apparatus defined in Claim 39 further comprising:

a depacketizer to depacketize packets containing the text information;

a memory coupled to the depacketizer to store the text information; and

a display coupled to the memory to display the text information on a display.

41. The apparatus defined in Claim 40 wherein the receiver is operable to receive information indicative of a response to the text information, and further wherein the transmitter is operable to wirelessly transmit the information.

42. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the text information is received on a messaging channel.

43. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the text information comprises a menu.

44. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the text information provides a list of allowable commands, at least one of the allowable commands being specified in the voice message.

45. The apparatus defined in Claim 36 wherein the text information provides a list of potential recipients, at least one of the potential recipients being specified in the voice message.

46. An apparatus comprising:

means for sending packets of a voice message on a packet data channel from a mobile device; and

means for receiving a text information in response to the packets of the voice message, wherein the text information provides a request to a user of the mobile device.

47. A method comprising:

de-packetizing a packet stream comprising a voice message recorded and packetized by a mobile device; and

determining an action to take with respect to the voice message based on content in the voice message.

48. The method defined in Claim 47 wherein determining an action to take with respect to the voice message comprises

identifying one or more specified recipients of the voice message;

locating routing information for each of the one or more specified recipients.

49. The method defined in Claim 48 further comprising routing the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information.

50. The method defined in Claim 48 wherein locating the routing information comprises:

identifying a connectivity server associated with the user;

sending portions of the recognized voice message to the connectivity server; and

receiving the routing information from the connectivity server.

51. The method defined in Claim 48 wherein locating the routing information comprises:

identifying a connectivity process associated with the user;

sending portions of the recognized voice message to the connectivity process running on a server locating the routing information; and

receiving the routing information from the connectivity process.

52. The method defined in Claim 48 wherein locating the routing information comprises:

accessing a memory using information identifying the one or more specified recipients; and

obtaining the routing information from the memory.

53. The method defined in Claim 49 wherein routing the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information comprises sending the voice message to another device.

54. The method defined in Claim 53 wherein sending the voice message to another mobile device occurs over a circuit switched channel.

55. The method defined in Claim 53 wherein sending the voice message to another mobile device occurs over a packet data channel.

56. The method defined in Claim 49 wherein routing the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information comprises sending the voice message to a point of presence (POP) and having the POP place a PSTN call to a telephone.

57. The method defined in Claim 56 wherein sending the voice message to the point of presence (POP) is performed using voice over IP (VOIP).

58. The method defined in Claim 48 wherein routing the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information comprises placing a call to a telephone over the PSTN.

59. The method defined in Claim 47 further comprising performing speech recognition on the voice message to identify the action.

60. The method defined in Claim 47 further comprising performing speech recognition on the voice message to identify one or more specified recipients of the voice message specified in the voice message.

61. The method defined in Claim 47 where the action is based on one of a predefined set of commands.

62. An apparatus comprising:

a de-packetizer to de-packetize a packet stream comprising a voice message recorded and packetized by a mobile device; and

a controller to determine an action to take with respect to the voice message.

63. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 wherein the controller determines the action based on content in the voice message.

64. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 wherein the controller determines the action based on a response to an inquiry.

65. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 wherein the controller identifies one or more specified recipients of the voice message, locates routing information for each of the one or more specified recipients.

66. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 further comprising a communication mechanism to route the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information.

67. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller comprises a routing module to locate the routing information and a communication module to route the voice message based on the routing information.

68. The apparatus defined in Claim 67 wherein the routing module and the communication module comprises software executing on at least one server.

69. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller identifies a connectivity server associated with the user, sends portions of the recognized voice message to a connectivity server, and receives the routing information from the connectivity server.

70. The apparatus defined in Claim 69 wherein the controller comprises a messaging server.

71. The apparatus defined in Claim 69 wherein the controller identifies the connectivity server by performing a look up based on the source of the voice message.

72. The apparatus defined in Claim 69 wherein the controller comprises:

an identification module to identify the connectivity server; and

a communication module to send portions of the recognized voice message to a connectivity server, the controller receiving the routing information from the connectivity server.

73. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller identifies a connectivity process associated with the user running on server running the controller, sends portions of the recognized voice message to a connectivity process within the server, and receives the routing information from the connectivity process.

74. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller locates the routing information by accessing a memory using information identifying the one or more specified recipients and obtaining the routing information from the memory.

75. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller routes the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information by sending the voice message to another device.

76. The apparatus defined in Claim 73 wherein the controller sends the voice message to another mobile device over a circuit switched channel.

77. The apparatus defined in Claim 73 wherein the controller sends the voice message to another mobile device over a packet data channel.

78. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller routes the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information by sending the voice message to a point of presence (POP) and having the POP place a PSTN call to a telephone.

79. The apparatus defined in Claim 78 wherein the controller sends the voice message to the point of presence (POP) using voice over IP (VOIP).

80. The apparatus defined in Claim 78 wherein the controller sends the voice message to a digital packet receiving device.

81. The apparatus defined in Claim 80 wherein the digital packet receiving device is a VoP (voice over packet) terminal.

82. The apparatus defined in Claim 65 wherein the controller routes the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information by placing a call to a telephone over the PSTN.

83. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 further comprising a speech recognition processor coupled to the controller to perform speech recognition on the voice message to identify the action.

84. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 further comprising a speech recognition processor coupled to the controller to perform speech recognition on the voice message to identify one or more specified recipients of the voice message specified in the voice message.

85. The apparatus defined in Claim 62 wherein the action is based on one of a predefined set of commands.

86. An apparatus comprising:

means for de-packetizing a packet stream comprising a voice message recorded and packetized by a mobile device; and

means for determining an action to take with respect to the voice message based on content in the voice message.

87. The apparatus defined in Claim 86 wherein the means for determining an action to take with respect to the voice message comprises

means for identifying one or more specified recipients of the voice message; and

means for locating routing information for each of the one or more specified recipients.

88. The apparatus defined in Claim 87 further comprising means for routing the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information.

89. The apparatus defined in Claim 87 wherein the means for locating the routing information comprises:

means for identifying a connectivity server associated with the user;

means for sending portions of the a recognized voice message to the connectivity server; and

means for receiving the routing information from the connectivity server.

90. The apparatus defined in Claim 87 wherein the means for locating the routing information comprises:

means for accessing a memory using information identifying the one or more specified recipients; and

means for obtaining the routing information from the memory.

91. An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media having executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a system, cause the system to:

de-packetize a packet stream comprising a voice message recorded and packetized by a mobile device; and

determine an action to take with respect to the voice message based on content in the voice message.

92. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 91 wherein the instructions to determine an action to take with respect to the voice message comprise instructions which, when executed by a system, cause the system to:

identify one or more specified recipients of the voice message; and

locate routing information for each of the one or more specified recipients.

93. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 91 wherein the instructions comprise instructions which, when executed by a system, cause the system to route the voice message to the one or more specified recipients based on the routing information.